

Office of Governor Mitch Daniels

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Weekly wrap-up

Governor delivers state assistance funds to Nappanee

Jan. 25, 2008— Governor Mitch Daniels delivered a check for nearly \$200,000 to Nappanee Mayor Larry Thompson, the first use of the Indiana Disaster Relief Fund. The \$198,423.35 check is for public assistance to help the city recover from damage to public facilities caused by an October 18, 2007 tornado that struck the community.



Jan. 25, 2008— Governor Daniels talks with Nappanee residents after delivering a check to the city from the Indiana Disaster Relief Fund.

The governor also has signed an executive order (08-04) that directs the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) to help homeowners and renters who were victims of the storm who otherwise are ineligible for financial assistance. Indiana is one of only a few states to offer such a disaster relief program for citizens.

“We set up this fund especially to help situations like the one in Nappanee, where important needs weren’t being met any other way,” said Daniels.

This is the first time Indiana has provided assistance from the relief fund to a local government affected by a disaster. A funding source was created by the governor’s 2006 measure that assesses a public safety fee on businesses that sell legal fireworks. The proceeds go to a statewide fire training system and state disaster relief. Before the presentation to Nappanee, the fund total had reached \$2.7 million.

[Read the news release.](#)

Governor discusses property tax relief plan with Hoosiers



Jan. 23, 2008— The governor discussed his property tax plan with Brookville residents during a visit to the Goldfinch Restaurant.

Jan. 23, 2008- Governor Daniels took his plan for property tax relief on the road this week with several stops across the state. The governor addressed business leaders at chamber of commerce events in Richmond and Elkhart and answered questions from Brookville residents during a visit to the Goldfinch Restaurant. He also held a roundtable discussion with members of the Southern Indiana Realtors Association and spoke about his proposal at a Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership breakfast event.

“We’re not going to have people losing their homes in this state over a system we have the power to fix,” said Daniels, speaking to realtors in Jeffersonville.

While Governor Daniels was traveling on Thursday, the Indiana House of Representatives passed legislation based on his property tax reform package. The bill now moves to the Indiana Senate for further discussion.

“A hearty thanks to the House leadership and those who cast this overwhelming vote,” Daniels said in response to the 93-1 decision. “Indiana’s biggest tax cut ever is a long step nearer to reality.”

Jan. 26, 2008- Governor Daniels spoke about the role of agriculture in the state’s economic development efforts at the Indiana Farm Bureau Young Farmer Leadership Conference. Over 350 young farmers and their families attended the event in Indianapolis.



To view past updates, click [here](#).

To visit Governor Daniels’ Web site, click [here](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Cummins to add 500 new professionals to its Columbus operations

Jan. 23, 2008- Cummins Inc. announced it will add approximately 500 professional employees in Columbus over the next two years, and has agreed to lease an office building being built as part of the Commons Mall redevelopment project to meet the expected growth.

The four-story, 100,000 square foot building is scheduled to be complete late in the first quarter of 2009. The project also includes a parking garage for Cummins employees to be built on property just southwest of the office building.

"We are pleased to be able to further strengthen our commitment to Columbus and the state of Indiana by bringing new, well-paying jobs to the region," said Cummins President and Chief Operating Officer Joe Loughrey. "As a large and growing employer in the city, we have a significant stake in helping Columbus remain a vibrant community. This project, along with the other initiatives outlined as part of the city's Vision 2020 plan, is a big step in that direction."

In addition to Loughrey, Indiana Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman, Columbus Mayor Fred Armstrong, project developer Tim Dora, representatives of the City of Lawrenceburg Regional Economic Development Fund and members of the staffs of U.S. Representatives Baron Hill and Mike Pence were among those in attendance at the announcement at Columbus City Hall.

"Last year 600 new production jobs, this year 500 new professional jobs. We're proud of Cummins and the growth the company is bringing to south central Indiana," said Governor Mitch Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)



Jan. 23, 2008- Bill Freije, CEO of Freije Treatment Systems Inc., explains to Governor Daniels how his water conditioning system operates.

Water technology company to expand in Central Indiana

Jan. 23, 2008 - Governor Mitch Daniels joined executives from water treatment technology developer Freije Treatment Systems Inc. to announce the company's plans to expand its corporate headquarters and product development center in Greenfield, creating more than 200 new jobs by 2010.

The developer and marketer of salt-free water conditioning systems for the residential, commercial and industrial markets will invest more than \$2 million to locate its new corporate headquarters and product development center in 34,000 square feet of an existing facility in the Mount Comfort Industrial Park.

[Read the news release.](#)

Governor requests federal assistance for northern Indiana

Jan. 23, 2008- Governor Daniels took action to request assistance for Hoosiers in northern Indiana affected by severe flooding that began January 7.

In compliance with federal regulations and Indiana Code, Executive Order 08-03 was issued to declare a disaster emergency in northern Indiana. In addition, the governor sent a letter to President George W. Bush to request federal assistance for Hoosiers affected by severe flooding that occurred in Carroll, Cass, Elkhart, Fulton, Jasper, Marshall, Pulaski, Tippecanoe and White counties.

Daniels indicated further damage may be identified and may include additional counties as part of the major disaster determination.

[Read the news release.](#)



Jan. 24, 2008- Governor Daniels greets local residents during a breakfast stop in Versailles.

A look ahead...

Governor Daniels will travel to Valparaiso and Kokomo this week.